

February 2016

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Recommended Citation

"Faith's Reasons" (2016). *Faith's Reasons*. Book 1.

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Faith's Reasons

The Catholic Intellectual Tradition at the University of Dayton

"St. Peter said that we must give a reason for the faith that is in us, and I am trying to give you those reasons . . ." —Dorothy Day

2004 Marianist Award: Cardinal Avery Dulles

On September 8, 2004, UD presented the 2004 Marianist Award to Cardinal Avery Dulles. Cardinal Dulles is the author of 22 books, among them the widely influential 1974 *Models of the Church* and a recently revised and updated edition of *The Splendor of Faith: The Theological Vision of Pope John Paul II*. Named a cardinal by John Paul II in 2001, he is the only U.S. cardinal who is not a bishop.

In his Marianist Award address, "The Faith of a Theologian," Cardinal Dulles described the path that led him to conversion, to join the Jesuits, and to his life's work as a theologian. "Faith," he said, to the audience of over 300 people, "is the presupposition and the animating principle of anything that claims to be theology. And faith is a gift. One may prepare for it, dispose oneself for it, and pray for it, but only God can confer it."

The Marianist Award, originally presented to a scholar of Mariology, was revived in 1986 as an annual award to a Catholic who has made a significant contribution to the intellectual life. Cardinal Dulles previously received an honorary degree from the University in 1992.

Catholic Schools in the United States

Catholic Schools in the United States: An Encyclopedia, was published by Greenwood Publishing in November 2004. This two-volume set, the first of its kind, includes 340 entries and involved 15 present or former UD personnel among the 42 contributors. Tom Hunt served as the work's coordinating editor, and wrote the Historical Overview section as well as 20 entries. Ellis Joseph, Dean Emeritus of the School of Education, and Father Ron Nuzzi served as co-editors. Covering topics from the 17th century to the present, the work is the most definitive reference resource on Catholic education available.

Sexual Abuse Crisis Lecture Series Continues

"The Wounded Body of Christ: Sexual Abuse in the Church," a lecture series sponsored by UD in response to the sexual abuse crisis, continued this semester with four presentations focusing on issues the crisis raises for the personal and communal life of the church.

In September, historian R. Scott Appleby of the University of Notre

Dame addressed "The Sexual Abuse Crisis: The Church's Response and Responsibility." Appleby was one of two lay people who addressed the 2002 Dallas meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops concerning the crisis. In October, L. Gregory Jones of the Duke Divinity School offered an ecumenical perspective on the crisis entitled "Forgetting Sin? Clergy Sexual Abuse, the Church and American Culture." Psychologist Sidney Callahan followed in November, exploring potential resources in Catholic tradition for thinking about sexuality. The semester concluded with presentations by members of the Department of Religious Studies—Dennis Doyle, Kelly Johnson and Satish Joseph—on "What Does It Mean to Say the Church Is Holy?"

Research Grant Presentations

The Forum on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition Today sponsored three Research Council Summer Seed Grants in Summer 2004. All three recipients have presented or will present the results of their research in brown bag lunchtime discussions open to the University community.

On December 2, Sr. Laura Leming of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, presented "Voice of the Faithful: Contesting Church," the results of a study of a VOTF group that Sr. Laura has been conducting since the group's formation. In the Winter term 2005, the other two recipients will present their research: Danielle Poe (Philosophy) on "Replacing Just War Theory with an Ethics of Sexual Difference," and Mark Ensalcado (Political Science/ International Studies), on the events leading to the prosecution of Augusto Pinochet.

"Catholic Lite?"

Recently-appointed *Commonweal* editor Paul Baumann visited campus October 7-8. In his public address, entitled "'Catholic Lite': More Nourishing than It Sounds?" he argued for a renewed appreciation of the elements of *Commonweal*-style "liberal Catholicism" currently often criticized as "Catholic lite" in contrast to a more faithful, authentic Catholicism. Despite the continuing difficulty of preserving an authentic Catholicism in the face of challenges posed by contemporary culture, Baumann concluded that "the way forward now is the traditional way forward—for a patient authority to insist on its prerogatives while nevertheless assimilating the truth offered by those who question those prerogatives. A glimpse of a more abiding truth is something only a catholic church, and none of her partisans alone, can make manifest." In addition to his

public lecture, Baumann also met with graduate students and faculty in the Department of Religious Studies.

Business as a Vocation

In October 2004 UD's School of Business Administration inaugurated an executive-in-residence series around the theme of "Business as a Vocation." The first residency was held by Richard A. Abdoo, an alum and former trustee of the University and former Chairman of the Board and CEO of Wisconsin Energy Corporation. The goal of the series is to help students view a career in business as a vocation, rather than just a series of jobs, fostering a deeper sense of purpose and creating a culture of business integrity.

Mr. Abdoo presented a public lecture on "Creating a Business Culture of Integrity," and also participated in an informal, interactive interview the next day in a session entitled "From the Executive Suite." In addition, Mr. Abdoo presented a number of small seminars for faculty, business leaders and students.

ACHA Spring Meeting

The American Catholic Historical Association will hold its spring 2005 meeting on April 22 and 23 at the University of Dayton. The Association was founded in 1919 to bring together scholars interested in the history of Catholicism, the history of the Catholic Church or Catholic aspects of secular history.

Rogus Lecture

UD's Center for Catholic Education extends an invitation to the annual Rogus Lecture on Monday, April 4, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. in the KU Ballroom. Fr. James Heft, S.M. will speak on "Catholic Education and Social Justice." The event is sponsored by the School of Education and Allied Professions.

Recent Activities of the University Professor of Faith and Culture

Fr. James Heft recently edited and introduced a volume of Marianist Award lectures, 1995-2004, to be published by Fordham University Press in summer 2005.

He has given lectures at colleges and universities including Marquette, St. Louis, the College of St. Catherine, and Grove City College. An address to presidents and principals of Catholic high schools will appear in spring 2005 in a book on the mission and identity of Catholic high schools. *Catholic Schools in the United States: An Encyclopedia* (see above) contains four entries by him. He is revising his annual fall lecture, "Catholics and the Presidential Election," for publication in *New Blackfriars*, a Review edited by the Dominicans of the English Province. Finally, he is editing with Donald E. Miller, a sociologist of religion at USC, the papers of an international conference he spearheaded at USC last October, "Faith, Fear and Indifference: Constructing the Religious Identity of the Next

Generation." Fordham University has invited him to be a part of a three-year study on passing the faith on to the next generation. In December, he conducted a retreat on mission and identity for the board of trustees of St. Bonaventure University.

On campus, he continues to teach each semester. In the fall term, he taught a Christian Ethics course, and in the winter term Catholic Doctrines. In the winter term, he will also convene weekly a cross-disciplinary faculty seminar on Engineering in the Catholic University. He will teach a course for UD this May in Morocco.

Finally, he continues to work at building the endowment for the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies (www.ifacs.com). One current project related to the Institute for which he is responsible will be the convening of an international group of Jewish and Catholic scholars to take that inter-religious dialogue another step forward.

UD Faculty: Recent Work in Brief

Gene August (English) continues work on a book examining divine comedies in world literature. In October he spent 3 weeks in China, devoting some time to researching and scoping out sites connected with the 18th century Chinese novel, *The Story of the Stone* or *Dream of the Red Chamber*, a Buddhist-Daoist divine comedy to be discussed in his book.

Una Cadegan (History), **Cecilia Moore** (Religious Studies) and **Anthony Smith** (Religious Studies) are all contributing chapters to the forthcoming *Columbia History of Roman Catholicism in America*, edited by James T. Fisher of Fordham University. The University of Dayton is the only institution represented by more than one of the volume's contributors.

Maura Donahue, Director of the Program in Christian Leadership, notes that the Chaminade Scholars program has just produced its first graduate. Biology major Ryan Maher plans to attend medical school.

Ed Garten (dean emeritus of libraries), has been studying while on sabbatical at the Greenleaf Center for Servant-Leadership in Indianapolis and has co-authored, with a colleague, a manuscript titled "Two Models of Leadership Formation in Community: A Dialogue in Professional Practice." During his leave he has also been studying at the divinity school at Vanderbilt University exploring late 19th-century female evangelists within the Holiness and Sanctified Self movements.

Tom Hunt (Teacher Education) served as the coordinating editor for the *Handbook of Research on Catholic Higher Education*, and as coordinating editor and an author for the forthcoming *Catholic Schools in the United States: An Encyclopedia* (see above). Tom currently serves as co-Program Chair of the Associates for Research on Private Education. He

has also begun his 6th year as co-editor of *Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice*.

John Inglis (Philosophy) was one of three North Americans to present at the annual International Society for the Study of Medieval Philosophy conference held this year at Freiburg in the Black Forest. The topic was the Intellectual Culture on the Rhine 1300-1550. His paper title: "The Self as Relational. Heinrich Seuse, Adelhalt Pfefferhartin, and Ruban Culture on the Upper Rhine."

Laura Leming, FMI (Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work) presented a paper in August at the Association for the Sociology of Religion in San Francisco on her research on Voice of the Faithful. The study articulates the dynamic of claiming lay ownership in the church as an example of religious agency. It documents the work of VOTF through the perspectives of its members. The study includes 31 interviews of lay members and priests who have interacted with the group and observational data from 10 regular group meetings and two regional events since the group's beginning. The paper aims to demonstrate that understanding how groups like these develop and how they interact with church officials allows a better grasp of how Catholicism develops in local contexts and how individuals claim ownership of their religion.

Therese Lysaught (Religious Studies), on sabbatical for the 2003-04 academic year, spent a

week in Haiti in summer 2004. In addition, she gave talks on medical and bio-ethics and the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at the Cardinal Bernardin Center, Catholic Theological Union; the Center for Clinical Bioethics, Georgetown University; the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities; Valley Covenant Church, Eugene, OR; Palliative Care Retreat, Ministry Health Care, Marshfield, WI; and the Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University, Chicago. In addition, she has been offered a contract by the University of Notre Dame Press to publish a textbook in Catholic moral theology, "Gathered for the Journey: Moral Theology in Catholic Perspective," co-edited with David Matzko McCarthy.

Terry Tilley (Religious Studies) published *History Theology and Faith: Dissolving the Modern Problematic* this semester. During a series of lectures and seminars at Mater Dei Institute of Dublin City University, he presented a seminar on the CIT as a key means for an educational institution to have a Catholic identity in a secular world. He will discuss the CIT in February in a faculty seminar at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, MN. His essay for the Karl Rahner Society on Rahner and Graham Greene (both born in 1904) will appear in the next volume of *Philosophy and Theology*. He has also just finished editing the College Theology Society's 50th Annual Volume, *New Horizons in Theology*, which will appear in 2005.

For the next issue:

The next issue of "Faith's Reasons" will appear in the spring of 2005. If you know of any other activities, events, people, or publications that should be highlighted here, please bring them to the attention of the editors. Contact Una Cadegan by e-mail (Una.Cadegan@notes.udayton.edu) or at the Dept. of History, The University of Dayton, Dayton, OH 45469-1540.

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The Catholic Intellectual Tradition at UD

published semi-annually by the Forum on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition Today and the office of the University Professor of Faith and Culture | Co-editors: Una M. Cadegan and James L. Heft, S.M.

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